Application No.: 10/587,831 Attorney Docket No. 05552.1470-00

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

- 1. (Currently Amended) An analytical test system comprising a molecular switch comprising a probe and a catalytic component, wherein the catalytic component is inhibited when the molecular switch is bound to an analyte.
- 2. (Previously presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the probe is conjugated to the catalytic component either directly or by way of a coupling component.
- 3-4. (Cancelled)
- 5. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the probe or a constituent thereof is a nucleic acid or a nucleic acid derivative.
- 6. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid is a ribonucleic acid, a deoxyribonucleic acid, a peptide nucleic acid, or a locked nucleic acid.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 5, wherein the nucleic acid or the nucleic acid derivative is present in hybridized form.
- 8. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the probe or a constituent thereof is an oligonucleotide.
- 9. (Cancelled)

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- 10. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalytic component or a constituent thereof is an enzyme, an antibody, a catalytically active nucleic acid, or a catalytically active nucleic acid derivative.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the catalytically active nucleic acid or the catalytically active nucleic acid derivative is a ribonucleic acid, a deoxyribonucleic acid, a peptide nucleic acid, or a locked nucleic acid.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The system as claimed in claim 10, wherein the catalytic component or a constituent thereof is an enzyme.
- 13. (Withdrawn) A method for determining the presence or concentration of an analyte in a sample, comprising contacting a molecular switch with a sample and measuring the activity of the molecular switch to thereby determine the presence or concentration of the analyte.
- 14-15. (Cancelled)
- 16. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the analyte is a nucleic acid or a nucleic acid derivative.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A molecular switch comprising a probe and a catalytic component, wherein the catalytic component is inhibited when the molecular switch is bound to an analyte.
- 18. (New) The molecular switch of claim 17, wherein the probe nucleic acid comprises a nucleic acid having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO: 2, SEQ ID NO: 3, SEQ ID NO: 4, SEQ ID NO: 5, SEQ ID NO: 6, or SEQ ID NO: 7.

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19. (New) The molecular switch of claim 18, wherein the catalytic component is chosen from glucose 6-phosphate dehydrogenase, a diaphorase, hexokinase, and galactose oxidase.